## Message Text

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**EXDIS** 

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, UNGA, RO, XF

SUBJ: ROMANIAN INITIATIVE ON PALESTINIANS

REF: USUN 2900

- 1. SUMMARY: ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR PRESSED SEPTEMBER 9 FOR US REACTION TO HIS IDEAS FOR AN SC RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING PALESTINIAN RIGHTS.
- 2. ROMANIAN PERM REP DATCU TOOK LEONARD ASIDE AT SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING SEPTEMBER 9 TO ASK FOR REACTIONS TO HIS SUGGESTIONS CONTAINED REFTEL.
- 3. LEONARD SAID HE HAD REPORTED CONVERSATION, WHICH VISIBLY PLEASED DATCU, BUT THAT HE HAD NO REACTION FROM DEPARTMENT.
- 4. DATCU SAID HE HAS CONTINUED HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH SYRIANS, EGYPTIANS, AND PLO REPRESENTATIVES AND HAS FURTHER DEVELOPED HIS SCENARIO. HE HAS NOT TALKED TO ISRAELIS, AND HE PARTICULARLY UNDERLINED THAT HE HAS NOT MENTIONED HIS ACTIVITIES TO SOVIETS. WE NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT ISRAELI DEPUTY PERM REP ELIAV INDICATED IN A CONVERSATION EARLIER THIS WEEK WITH LEONARD THAT HE CONFIDENTIAL

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WAS AWARE ROMANIANS WERE WORKING ON SOME SORT OF RESOLUTION ON PALESTINIAN PROBLEM.

5. DATCU SAID ARABS HAVE INDICATED INTEREST IN A SCENARIO IN WHICH EXTREMELY SHORT RESOLUTION WOULD BE PASSED BY SECURITY COUNCIL WITH BRIEFEST OF SPEECHES BY SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS, AND ON SPEECHES BY NON-MEMBERS. ARABS

EXPECTED THAT ISRAEL WOULD REFUSE TO ACCEPT THIS NEW SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION, WHILE ARAB SIDE, INCLUDING PLO, WOULD MADE STATEMENTS WELCOMING ITS ENDORSEMENT OF PALESTINIAN RIGHTS AND ACCEPTING ITS REAFFIRMATION OF 242 AND 338.

6. WHEN LEONARD POINTED OUT THAT ENTIRE SCENARIO WOULD BE MAJOR PLUS FOR ARAB SIDE AND EXTREMELY UNWELCOME TO ISRAELIS WHO ARE ANYTHING BUT WARM SUPPORTERS OF 242. DATCU WITHDREW HIS SUGGESTION THAT RESOLUTION SHOULD PRESENT ITSELF AS ONE OF FOUNDATION STONES FOR GENEVA CONFERENCE. HIS ARGUMENTS ON BEHALF OF HIS ENTERPRISE COME DOWN TO AVOIDANCE OF FAR WORSE ALTERNATIVES AND MAINTENANCE BETWEEN CARTER ADMINISTRATION AND ARAB SIDE OF RELATIONSHIP WHICH HAD BEGIN TO DEVELOP. HE ASSERTED THAT MODERATE ARABS DESPERATELY NEED SOMETHING OF THIS SORT AS OUTCOME OF FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONSULTATIONS DURING NEXT MONTH IF THEY ARE TO FEND OFF PRESSURES FROM RADICAL ARABS AND SOVIETS FOR EXTREME ACTIONS IN BOTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND SECURITY COUNCIL. HE URGED THAT US GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO TAKING HIS IDEA UP WITH ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS AND SAID HE WILL BE GLAD TO STEP OUT OF HIS MIDDLE-MAN ROLE WHENEVER WE SAY.

7. COMMENT: DATCU IS BY NATURE SOMETHING OF A BUSYBODY, BASICALLY WELL DISPOSED TOWARDS US AND VERY RESENTFUL OF CONFIDENTIAL.

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PRESSURES SOVIETS ARE CONSTANTLY EXERTING ON ROMANIANS. HIS PURSUIT OF THIS QUESTION, HOWEVER, SUGGESTS THAT PLO AND PERHAPS SYRIANS ARE PRODDING HIM. EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR HAS JUST RETURNED FROM CAIRO, BUT WE HAVE HAD NO SUBSTANTIVE CONTACT WITH HIM YET AND WILL NOT RAISE THIS MATTER UNLESS DEPARTMENT INSTRUCTS. END COMMENT. LEONARD

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